

The State of Maryland seeks or desires nothing which is not her's of right; and it is necessary for her honor, that in her controversy, though amicable, and with her sister, the terms of adjustment shall not be dictated to her.

A brief review of the proceedings of Maryland would demonstrate that she has from time to time mildly reminded her sister State of her claims, and sought to refer them to the examination of Commissioners, to be appointed by the parties from among their own citizens respectively; desiring only to provide for the appointment of an umpire by one of our disinterested sister States, in the event of disagreement among the Commissioners. In such propositions Maryland has evinced her confidence in the justice of her cause, but has suggested nothing incompatible with the dignity of Virginia. She has desired, and still desires the peaceful ascertainment of her rights, never doubting but Virginia would deem it necessary to her true glory to do right at whatever sacrifice, just that the relative rights of herself & neighbours should be equitably ascertained, and govern herself accordingly without reckoning her means of resistance.

The Laws of Virginia before referred to, of March 5th 1833, has been understood by us as not only not in accordance with, but directly repulsive of the equitable and moderate wishes of Maryland, as an undertaking in truth, by one of the parties absolutely to settle and pronounce against the claim of the other.

So regarding it, the State of Maryland determined to lay her controversy before that high and independent tribunal empowered by all the States to hear and decide "all controversies between two or more States;" and she has unshaken confidence that when the founders of the Union agreed that all controversies between these States, should be settled by appeals to *Justice* and not to *arms*, they did not fail to achieve that peculiar and brightest glory of our country.

It is however gratifying to learn from a source entitled to so much respect, that we may have misconceived the proceedings and intentions of Virginia, and to be allowed to hope that she may yet do what may not be less advantageous and becoming to her, than to Maryland. It would be lamentable that false honor or strained punctilio should be permitted to estrange these States, or prevent the free course of explanation and liberal and just action among them.

That State will probably be regarded by posterity, as well as our contemporaries as most loyal to the common welfare and to its own honor, which shall be most distinguished by